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region in some directions, notably in giving rise to water power in some places, in bringing about conditions which have made lake navigation possible, and finally, by causing the through valleys. This latter work of the glacier is of great significance, and probably counterbalances all the disadvantages. The through valleys have guided the course of railways, some of them trunk lines, along the cross valleys; and where the through valleys converge, towns and cities have naturally grown.

Altogether, the central New York plateau region illustrates perfectly the relation between man and his environment. Geographic conditions unfavorable to many forms of agriculture have led to a change in the industry and a decline in the farming population; they have been adverse to mining and manufacturing; and they have been unfavorable to the growth of large centers of population. The location of these centers, as well as their growth, has been guided by geographic conditions, and the influence of those conditions may be traced in various directions, even in minute detail; but, in the main, the growth of towns and cities has been dependent primarily upon the routes of travel, which are dependent directly upon the topography.

GEOGRAPHY AND SOME OF ITS PRESENT NEEDS*

GEOGRAPHICAL PROGRESS IN THE LAST DECADE

Among the many geographical results of work in the past decade a few may be mentioned. The measurement of new and the re-measurement of old arcs will give us better data for determining the size and shape of the Earth. Surveys of all kinds, from the simple route sketches of the traveler to the elaborate cadastral surveys of some of the more populous and settled regions have so extended our knowledge of the surface features of the Earth that a map on the scale of 1:1,000,000 is not merely planned, but actually partly executed. Such surveys and such maps are the indispensable basis of our science.

The progress of oceanography has also been great. The sound-

* This article presents most of the opening address of A. J. Herbertson, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Geography at the University of Oxford, delivered as President of Section E, Geography, at the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. The paper is printed in full in *Nature*, Sept. 22, 1910.

ings of our own and other Admiralties, of scientific oceanographical expeditions, and those made for the purpose of laying cables, have given us much more detailed knowledge of the irregularities of the ocean floor. An international map of oceanic contours, due to the inspiration and munificence of the Prince of Oceanographers and of Monaco, has been issued during the decade, and so much new material has accumulated that it is now being revised. A comparison of the old and new editions of Krümmel's "Ozeanographie" shows us the immense advances in this subject.

Great progress has been made on the geographical side of meteorology and climate. The importance of this knowledge for tropical agriculture and hygiene has led to an increase of meteorological stations all over the hot belt—the results of which will be of value to the geographer. Mr. Bartholomew's "Atlas of Meteorology" appeared at the beginning, and Sir John Eliot's "Meteorological Atlas of India" at the end, of the decade. Dr. Hann's "Lehrbuch" and the new edition of his "Climatology," Messrs. Hildebrandsson and Teisserenc de Bort's great work, and the recent studies of the Upper Atmosphere, are among the landmarks of progress. The record is marred only by the closing of Ben Nevis Observatory at the moment when its work would have been most necessary. To appreciate the progress of climatology it is only necessary to compare the present number and distribution of meteorological stations with those given in Bartholomew's Atlas of 1899. I have not time to recapitulate the innumerable studies of geographical value issued by many meteorological services, observatories, and observers—public and private—but I may direct attention to the improved weather maps and to the excellent pilot charts of the North Atlantic and of the Indian Ocean published monthly by our Meteorological Office.

Lake studies have also been a feature of this decade, and none is so complete or so valuable as the Scottish Lakes Survey—a work of national importance, undertaken by private enthusiasm and generosity. We have to congratulate Sir John Murray and Mr. Pullar on the completion of a great work.

In Geology, I might note that we now possess a map of Europe on a scale of 1:1,500,000 prepared by international cooperation, and also one of North America on a smaller scale; both invaluable to the geographer. The thanks and congratulations of all geographers are due to Prof. Suess on the conclusion of his classical work on the Face of the Earth, the first comprehensive study of the main divisions and characteristics of its skeleton.

A new movement, inspired mainly by Prof. Flahault in France,

Prof. Geddes in this country, Profs. Engler, Drude, and Schimper in Germany, has arisen among botanists, and at last we have some modern botanical geography which is really valuable to the geographer. I wish we could report similar progress in zoological geography, but that, I trust, will come in the next decade.

THE NEED FOR CLASSIFICATION AND NOTATION IN
GEOMORPHOLOGY, ETC.

I should like to say a few words about the subdivisions of geography and the vexed question of terminology.

In the scheme of the Universe it is possible to consider the Earth as a unit, with its own constitution and history. It has an individuality of its own, though for the astronomer it is only one example of a particular type of heavenly bodies. As geographers, we take it as our unit individual in the same way that an anatomist takes a man. We see that it is composed of different parts, and we try to discover what these are, of what they are composed, what their function is, what has been their history.

One fundamental division is into land, water, and air. Each has its forms and its movements. The forms are more obvious and persistent in the land. They are least so in the atmosphere, though forms exist—some of which are at times made visible by clouds, and many can be clearly discerned on isobaric charts. The land is the temporarily permanent; the water and atmosphere the persistently mobile, the latter more so than the former. The stable forms of the land help to control the distribution and movements of the waters, and to a less extent those of the atmosphere. How great the influence of the distribution of land and water is on the atmosphere may be seen in the monsoon region of eastern Asia.

The study of the land, the ocean, and the atmosphere has resulted in the growth of special branches of knowledge—Geomorphology, Oceanography, and Climatology. Each is indispensable to the geographer, each forms an essential part of the geographical whole. Much research work is and will be carried on in each by geographers who find their geographical studies hampered for the lack of it. As geographical progress is to a considerable extent conditioned by progress in these subjects, it would be legitimate to examine their needs. Time, however, will admit only a note on one of the barriers to progress in geomorphology—the lack of a good classification and notation.

Geomorphology deals with the forms of the land and their shaping. Three things have to be kept clearly in view: (1) The struc-

ture, including the composition, of the more permanent substance of the form; (2) the forces which are modifying it; and (3) the phase in the cycle of forms characteristic of such structure acted on by such forces. We may say that any form is a function of structure, process, and time. The matter is even more complicated, for we have instances, *e. g.*, in antecedent drainage systems, of the conditions of a previous cycle affecting a subsequent one—a kind of heredity of forms which cannot be neglected.

The geomorphologist is seeking for a genetic classification of forms and in the works of Bertrand, Davis, de la Noë and de Margerie, Penck, Richthofen, Suess, and Supan and their pupils are being accumulated the materials for a more complete and systematic classification of forms. As you all know, the question of terms for the manifold land-forms is a difficult one, and apt to engender much more controversy than the analysis of the forms themselves. I believe that we shall find it advantageous to adopt some notation analogous to that of the chemists. I have not yet had time to work such a notation out in detail, but it might take the form of using different symbols for the three factors noted above—say, letters for different kinds of structure, Arabic figures for processes and Roman figures for the stage of a cycle the form has reached.

Take a very simple set of structures and indicate each by a letter:

		UNDISTURBED	FAULTED
Structure.....	homogeneous.....	A	A'
	layered { horizontal... { tilted..... { folded.....	B	B'
		C	C'
		D	D'
	mixed.....	E	E'

If pervious or impervious, a *p* or an *i* could be added—*e. g.* a tilted limestone with faults would be C'*p*.

Next, indicate the commoner erosion processes by Arabic numerals:

Process.....	moving water.....	1
	ice.....	2
	wind.....	3
	sea.....	4

One process may have followed another, *e. g.* where a long period of ice erosion has been followed by water erosion we might write 2.1, where these alternate annually, say 21.

The phase of the cycle might be denoted by Roman figures. A scale of V might be adopted, and I, III, and V used for youthful,

middle-aged, and old-aged, as this has been called, or early, middle, and late phases, as I prefer to term them. II and IV would denote intermediate phases.

A scarped limestone ridge in a relatively mature phase like the Cotswolds would be, if we put the process first, 1 C⁺ III.; a highland like the Southern Uplands of Scotland would be denoted by the formula 1.2.1 E⁺ III.

This is the roughest suggestion, but it shows how we could label our cases of notes and pigeon-hole our types of forms—and prevent for the present undue quarrelling over terms.* No doubt there would be many discussions, for example, about the exact phase of the cycle, whether ice, in addition to water, has been an agent in shaping this or that form, and so on. But, after all, these discussions would be more profitable than quarrels as to which descriptive term, or place-name, or local usage should be adopted to distinguish it.

The use of such notations in geographical problems is not unknown. They were employed by Köppen in his classification of climate; and now, in the case of climatology, there is coming to be a general consensus of opinion as to what are the chief natural divisions, and the use of figures and letters to indicate them has been followed by several other authors. This should also be attempted for oceanography.

If any international agreement of symbols and colors could be come to for such things it would be a great gain, and I hope to bring this matter before the next International Geographical Congress.

THE NEED FOR SELECTING NATURAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNITS

We have still to come to Geography proper, which considers land, water, and air, not merely separately but as associated together. What are the units smaller than the whole Earth with which our science has to deal?

When we fix our attention on parts of the Earth and ask what is a natural unit, we are hampered by preconceptions. We recognize species, or genera, families, or races as units—but they are abstract rather than concrete units. The reason for considering them as units is that they represent a historical continuity. They have not an actual physical continuity such as the component parts of an individual have. Concrete physical continuity in the present is what

* What I wish to make clear is that it is not necessary to invent a new term for every new variety of land form as soon as it is recognized. It will suffice at first to be able to label it. The notation will also stimulate the search for and recognition of new varieties.

differentiates the geographical unit. Speaking for myself, I should say that every visible concrete natural unit on the Earth's surface consisting of more than one organic individual is a geographical unit. It is a common difficulty not to be able to see the wood for the trees; it is still more difficult to recognize that the wood consists of more than trees, that it is a complex of trees and other vegetation, fixed to a definite part of the solid earth and bathed in air. We may speak of a town or State as composed of people, but a complete conception of either must include the spacial connections which unite its parts. A town is not merely an association of individuals, nor is it simply a piece of land covered with streets and buildings; it is a combination of both.

It is true that in determining the greater geographical units, man need not be taken into account. We are too much influenced by the mobility of man, by his power to pass from one region to another, and we are apt to forget that his influence on his environment is negligible except when we are dealing with relatively small units. The geographer will not neglect man; he will merely be careful to prevent himself from being unduly influenced by the human factor in selecting his major units.

Some geographers and many geologists have suggested that land forms alone need be taken into account in determining these larger geographical units. Every different recognizable land form is undoubtedly a geographical unit. A vast lowland, such as that which lies to the east of the Rocky Mountains, is undoubtedly a geographical unit of great importance, but its geographical subdivisions are not necessarily orographical. The shores of the Gulf of Mexico could not be considered as geographically similar to those of the Arctic Ocean, even if they were morphologically homologous. The lowlands of the polar regions are very different from those at or near the tropics. The rhythm of their life is different, and this difference is revealed in the differences of vegetation.

I wish to lay great stress on the significance of vegetation to the geographer for the purposes of regional classification. I do not wish to employ a biological terminology nor to raise false analogies between the individual organism and the larger units of which it is a part, but I think we should do well to consider what may be called the life or movement going on in our units as well as their form. We must consider the seasonal changes of its atmospheric and of its water movements, as well as the parts of the Earth's crust which they move over and even slightly modify. For this purpose a study of climatic regions is as necessary as a study of morphological

regions, and the best guides to the climatic regions are the vegetation ones.

By vegetation I mean not the flora, the historically related elements, but the vegetable coating, the space-related elements. Vegetation in this sense is a geographical phenomenon of fundamental importance. It indicates quality—quality of atmosphere and quality of soil. It is a visible synthesis of the climatic and edaphic elements. Hence the vast lowlands of relatively uniform land features are properly divided into regions according to vegetation—tundra, pine forest, deciduous forest, warm evergreen forest, steppe, and scrub. Such differences of vegetation are full of significance even in mountainous areas.

The search after geographical unity—after general features common to recognizable divisions of the Earth's surface, the analysis of these, their classification into types, the comparisons between different examples of the types—seem to me among the first duties of a geographer. Two sets of studies and maps are essential—topographical and vegetational—the first dealing with the superficial topography and its surface irregularities, the latter relating to the quality of climate and soil.

Much has been said in recent years—more particularly from this Presidential chair—on the need for trustworthy topographical maps. Without such maps no others can be made. But when they are being made it would be very easy to have a general vegetational map compiled. Such maps are even more fundamental than geological maps, and they can be constructed more rapidly and cheaply. Every settled country, and more particularly every partially settled country, will find them invaluable if there is to be any intelligent and systematic utilization of the products of the country. Possessing both sets of maps, the geographer can proceed with his task.

This task, I am assuming, is to study environments, to examine the forms and qualities of the Earth's surface, and to recognize, define, and classify the different kinds of natural units into which it can be divided. For these we have not as yet even names. It may seem absurd that there should be this want of terms in a subject which is associated in the minds of most people with a superfluity of names. I have elsewhere suggested the use of the terms major natural region, natural region, district, and locality to represent different grades of geographical units, and have also attempted to map the seventy or eighty major natural regions into which the Earth's surface is divided and to classify them into about twenty types. These tentative divisions will necessarily become more ac-

curate as research proceeds, and the minor natural regions into which each major natural region should be divided will be definitely recognized, described, and classified. Before this can be done, however, the study of geomorphology and of plant formations must be carried far beyond the present limits.

The value of systematic and exhaustive studies of environment such as those I suggest can hardly be exaggerated. Without them all attempts to estimate the significance of the environment must be superficial guesswork. No doubt it is possible to exaggerate the importance of the environmental factor, but it is equally possible to undervalue it. The truly scientific plan is to analyze and to evaluate it. Problems of the history of human development, as well as those of the future of human settlements, cannot be solved without this. For the biologist, the historian, the economist, the statesman, this work should be carried out as soon and as thoroughly as is possible in the present state of our knowledge.

A beginning of systematic geographical studies has also been made at the opposite end of the scale in local geographical monographs. Dr. H. R. Mill, one of the pioneers of geography in this country and one of my most distinguished predecessors in this chair, has given us in his study of south-west Sussex an admirable example of the geographical monograph proper, which takes into account the whole of the geographical factors involved. He has employed quantitative methods so far as these could be applied, and in doing so has made a great step in advance. Quantitative determinations are at least as essential in geographical research as the consideration of the time factor. At Oxford we are continuing Dr. Mill's work. We require our diploma students to select some district shown on a sheet of this map for detailed study by means of map measurements, an examination of statistics and literature which throw light on the geographical conditions, and, above all, by field work in the selected district. Every year we are accumulating more of these district monographs, which ought, in their turn, to be used for compiling regional monographs dealing with the larger natural areas. In recent years excellent examples of such regional monographs have come from France and from Germany.

The geomorphologist and the sociologist have also busied themselves with particular aspects of selected localities. Prof. W. M. Davis, of Harvard, has published geomorphological monographs which are invaluable as models of what such work should be. In a number of cases he has passed beyond mere morphology and has directed attention to the organic responses associated with each land

form. Some of the monographs published under the supervision of the late Prof. Ratzel, of Leipzig, bring out very clearly the relation between organic and inorganic distributions, and some of the monographs of the Le Play school incidentally do the same.

THE DOUBLE CHARACTER OF GEOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH

To carry on geographical research, whether on the larger or the smaller units, there is at present a double need—in the first place, of collecting new information, and, in the second place, of working up the material which is continually being accumulated.

THE NEED FOR THE SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION OF DATA

The first task—that of collecting new information—is no small one. In many cases it must be undertaken on a scale that can be financed only by Governments. The Ordnance and Geological Surveys of our own and other countries are examples of Government departments carrying on this work. We need more of them. The presidents of the Botanical and Anthropological Sections are, I understand, directing the attention of the Association to the urgent necessity for complete Botanical and Anthropological Surveys of the kingdom. All geographers will warmly support their appeal, for the material which would be collected through such surveys is essential to our geographical investigations.

Another urgent need is a Hydrographical Department, which would cooperate with Dr. Mill's rainfall organization. It would be one of the tasks of this department to extend and coordinate the observations on river and lake discharge, which are so important from an economic or health point of view that various public bodies have had to make such investigations for the drainage areas which they control. Such research work as that done by Dr. Strahan for the Exe and Medway would be of the greatest value to such a department. We shall see how serious the absence of such a department is if we consider how our water supply is limited, and how much of it is not used to the best advantage. We must know its average quantity and the extreme variations of supply. We must also know what water is already assigned to the uses of persons and corporations, and what water is still available. We shall have to differentiate between water for the personal use of man and animals, and water for industrial purposes. The actualities and the potentialities can be ascertained, and should be recorded and mapped.

THE NEED FOR THE APPLICATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL METHODS TO
ALREADY COLLECTED DATA

In the second direction of research—that of treating from the geographical standpoint the data accumulated, whether by Government departments or by private initiative—work has as yet hardly been begun.

The topographical work of the Ordnance Survey is the basis of all geographical work in our country. The Survey has issued many excellent maps, none more so than the recently published half-inch contoured and hill-shaded maps with colors “in layers.” Its maps are not all above criticism; for instance, few can be obtained for the whole kingdom having precisely the same symbols. It has not undertaken some of the work that should have been done by a national cartographic service—for instance, the lake survey. Nor has it yet done what the Geological Survey has done—published descriptive accounts of the facts represented on each sheet of the map. From every point of view these are great defects; but in making these criticisms we must not forget (1) that the Treasury is not always willing to find the necessary money, and (2) that the Ordnance Survey was primarily made for military purposes, and that the latest map it has issued has been prepared for military reasons. It has been carried out by men who were soldiers first and topographers after, and did not necessarily possess geographical interests.

The ideal geographical map, with its accompanying geographical memoir, can be produced only by those who have had a geographical training. Dr. Mill, in the monograph already referred to, has shown us how to prepare systematized descriptions of the one-inch map sheets issued by the Ordnance Survey.

The preparation of such monographs would seem to fall within the province of the Ordnance Survey. If this is impossible, the American plan might be adopted. There the Geological Survey, which is also a topographical one, is glad to obtain the services of professors and lecturers who are willing to undertake work in the field during vacations. It should not be difficult to arrange similar cooperation between the universities and the Ordnance Survey in this country. At present the Schools of Geography at Oxford and at the London School of Economics are the only university departments which have paid attention to the preparation of such monographs, but other universities will probably fall into line. Both the universities and the Ordnance Survey would gain by such coopera-

tion. The chief obstacle is the expense of publication. This might reasonably be made a charge on the Ordnance Survey, on condition that each monograph published were approved by a small committee on which both the universities and the Ordnance Survey were represented.

The Geological Survey has in recent years issued better and cheaper one-inch maps, and more attention has been given to morphological conditions in the accompanying monographs; but it is necessary to protest against the very high prices which are now being asked for the older hand-colored maps. The new quarter-inch map is a great improvement on the old one, but we want "drift" as well as "solid" editions of all the sheets. The geographer wants even more than these a map showing the quality of the solid rock, and not merely its age. He has long been asking for a map which would indicate the distribution of clay, limestone, sandstone, &c., and when it is prepared on the quarter-inch, or better on the half-inch, scale the study of geomorphology and of geography will receive a very great stimulus and assistance.

The information which many other Government departments are accumulating would also become much more valuable if it were discussed geographically. Much excellent geographical work is done by the Admiralty and the War Office. The Meteorological Office collects statistics of the weather conditions from a limited number of stations; but its work is supplemented by private societies which are not well enough off to discuss the observations they publish with the detail which these observations deserve. The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has detailed statistical information as to crops and live stock for the geographer to work up. From the Board of Trade he would obtain industrial and commercial data and from the Local Government Board vital and other demographic statistics. At present most of the information of these departments is only published in statistical tables.

Statistics are all very well, but they are usually published in a tabular form, which is the least intelligible of all. Statistics should be mapped, and not merely be set out in columns of figures. Many dull Blue-books would be more interesting and more widely used if their facts were properly mapped. I say *properly* mapped, because most examples of so-called statistical maps are merely crude diagrams, and are often actually misleading. It requires a knowledge of geography in addition to an understanding of statistical methods to prepare intelligible statistical maps. If Mr. Bosse's maps of the population of England and Wales in Bartholomew's Survey Atlas

are compared with the ordinary ones, the difference between a geographical map and a cartographic diagram will be easily appreciated.

The coming census, and to a certain extent the census of production, and probably the new land valuation, will give more valuable raw material for geographical treatment. If these are published merely in tabular form they will not be studied by any but a few experts. Give a geographer with a proper staff the task of mapping them in a truly geographical way, and they will be eagerly examined even by the man in the street, who cannot fail to learn from them. The representation of the true state of the country in a clear, graphic, and intelligible form is a patriotic piece of work which the Government should undertake. It would add relatively little to the cost of the census, and it would infinitely increase its value.

THE NEED OF REORGANIZING THE GEOGRAPHICAL FACTOR IN IMPERIAL PROBLEMS

With such quantitative information geographically treated and with a fuller analysis of the major natural regions it ought to be possible to go a step further and to attempt to map the economic value of different regions at the present day. Such maps would necessarily be only approximations at first. Out of them might grow other maps prophetic of economic possibilities. Prophecy in the scientific sense is an important outcome of geographical as well as of other scientific research. The test of geographical laws, as of others, is the pragmatic one. Prophecy is commonly but unduly derided. Mendeléeff's periodic law involved prophecies which have been splendidly verified. We no longer sneer at the weather prophet. Efficient action is based on knowledge of cause and consequence, and proves that a true forecast of the various factors has been made. Is it too much to look forward to the time when the geographical prospector, the geographer who can estimate potential geographical values, will be as common as and more trustworthy than the mining prospector?

The day will undoubtedly come when every Government will have its Geographical-Statistical Department dealing with its own and other countries—an Information Bureau for the administration corresponding to the Department of Special Inquiries at the Board of Education. At present there is no geographical staff to deal geographically with economic matters or with administrative matters. Yet the recognition of and proper estimation of the geographical factor is going to be more and more important as the uttermost ends of the Earth are bound together by visible steel lines and steel

vessels or invisible impulses which require no artificial path or vessel as their vehicle.

The development of geographical research along these lines in our own country could give us an Intelligence Department of the kind, which is much needed. If this were also done by other States within the Empire, an Imperial Intelligence Department would gradually develop. Thinking in continents, to borrow an apt phrase of Mr. Mackinder's, might then become part of the necessary equipment of a statesman instead of merely an after-dinner aspiration. The country which first gives this training to its statesmen will have an immeasurable advantage in the struggle for existence.

THE NEED FOR THE ADEQUATE ENDOWMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AT THE UNIVERSITIES

Our universities will naturally be the places where the men, fit to constitute such an Intelligence Department, will be trained. It is encouraging, therefore, to see that they are taking up a new attitude towards geography, and that the Civil Service Commissioners, by making it a subject for the highest Civil Service examinations, are doing much to strengthen the hands of the universities. When the British Association last met in Sheffield geography was the most despised of school subjects, and it was quite unknown in the universities. It owed its first recognition as a subject of university status to the stimulus and generous financial support of the Royal Geographical Society and the brilliant teaching of Mr. Mackinder at Oxford. Ten years ago Schools of Geography were struggling into existence at Oxford and Cambridge, under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society. A single decade has seen the example of Oxford and Cambridge followed by nearly every university in Great Britain, the University of Sheffield among them. In Dr. Rudmose Brown it has secured a scientifically trained traveler and explorer of exceptionally wide experience, who will doubtless build up a Department of Geography worthy of this great industrial capital. The difficulty, however, in all universities is to find the funds necessary for the endowment, equipment, and working expenses of a Geographical Department of the first rank. Such a department requires expensive instruments and apparatus, and, since the geographer has to take the whole World as his subject, it must spend largely on collecting, storing, and utilizing raw material of the kind I have spoken of. Moreover, a professor of geography should have seen much of the World before he is appointed, and it ought to be an important part of his professional duties to travel frequently and

far. I have never been able to settle to my own satisfaction the maximum income which a department of geography might usefully spend, but I have had considerable experience of working a department the income of which was not very far above the minimum. Until now the Oxford School of Geography has been obliged to content itself with three rooms and to make these suffice, not merely for lecture-rooms and laboratories, but also for housing its large and valuable collection of maps and other materials. This collection is far beyond anything which any other university in this country possesses but it shrinks into insignificance beside that of a rich and adequately supported Geographical Department like that of the University of Berlin. This fortunate department has an income of about 6,000*l.* a year, and an institute built specially for its requirements at a cost of more than 150,000*l.*, excluding the site. In Oxford we are most grateful to the generosity of Mr. Bailey, of Johannesburg, which will enable the School of Geography to add to its accommodation by renting for five years a private house, in which there will temporarily be room for our students and for our collections, especially those relating to the geography of the Empire. But even then we can never hope to do what we might if we had a building specially designed for geographical teaching and research. Again, Lord Brassey and Mr. Douglas Freshfield, a former President of this Section, have each generously offered 500*l.* towards the endowment of a professorship if other support is forthcoming. All this is matter for congratulation, but I need hardly point out that a professor with only a precarious working income for his department is a person in a far from enviable position. There is at present no permanent working income guaranteed to any Geographical Department in the country, and so long as this is the case the work of all these departments will be hampered and the training of a succession of competent men retarded. I do not think that I can conclude this brief address better than by appealing to those princes of industry who have made this great city of Sheffield what it is to provide for the Geographical Department of the University on a scale which shall make it at once a model and a stimulus to every other university in the country and to all benefactors of universities.